



The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

DEPARTMENT OF TELECOMMUNICATIONS AND ENERGY

D.T.E. 03-121

January 20, 2004

Investigation by the Department of Telecommunications and Energy on its own motion as to the propriety of the rates and charges set forth in the following Standby Rate tariffs:

M.D.T.E. Nos. 136A and 137A - Boston Edison Company; M.D.T.E. Nos. 237C, 238C, 239C, 254A and 255A - Cambridge Electric Light Company; and M.D.T.E. Nos. 337A and 338A - Commonwealth Electric Company, filed on January 16, 2004, to become effective February 4, 2004, by Boston Edison Company, Cambridge Electric Light Company, and Commonwealth Electric Company d/b/a NSTAR Electric.

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING AND PROCEDURAL CONFERENCE

On January 16, 2004, pursuant to G.L. c. 164, § 94 and 220 C.M.R. §§ 5.00 et seq., Boston Edison Company, Cambridge Electric Light Company and Commonwealth Electric Company ("Companies" or "NSTAR Electric") filed for approval by the Department of Telecommunications and Energy ("Department"), tariffs designed to establish standby rates for large and medium-sized commercial and industrial customers who have their own on-site, self-generation facilities. The tariffs are as follows: Boston Edison Company, M.D.T.E. Nos. 136A and 137A (Rates SB-1 and SB-2); Cambridge Electric Light Company, M.D.T.E. Nos. 237C, 238C, 239C, 254A and 255A (Rates SB-1, MS-1, SS-1, SB-2, and SB-3); Commonwealth Electric Company, M.D.T.E. Nos. 337A and 338A (Rates SB-1 and SB-2).

In this proceeding, the Department will investigate the proposed tariffs in order to ensure that the Companies used an appropriate method for the calculation of standby or back up-rates for customers who have their own on-site, self-generation facilities. In particular, the Department will investigate, among other things, whether: (1) the proposed standby rates ensure that customers with their own on-site, self-generation facilities pay an appropriate share of distribution system costs; (2) distribution companies should recover their costs through fixed or variable charges; (3) standby rates should reflect embedded and/or incremental costs; and (4) distribution companies should offer firm and non-firm standby service.

The Department will conduct a public hearing to receive comments on the Company's filing at **10:00 a.m. on Tuesday, February 10, 2004**, at the Department's offices -- One South Station, Boston, Massachusetts, 02110. Following the public hearing, the Department will conduct a procedural conference.

Any person who wishes to submit written comments may do so by filing an original and five (5) copies of such comments with: Mary L. Cottrell, Secretary, Department of Telecommunications and Energy, One South Station, Boston, Massachusetts 02110, no later than the close of business **Tuesday, February 10, 2004**.

Any person seeking to intervene in this investigation must file an original and five (5) copies of a written petition for leave to intervene or to participate in this proceeding no later than the close of business (5:00 p.m.) **Tuesday, February 3, 2004**, with Mary L. Cottrell, Secretary, Department of Telecommunications and Energy, One South Station, Boston, Massachusetts 02110.

A petition to intervene must satisfy the timing and substantive requirements of 220 C.M.R. § 1.03. Receipt by the Department -- not mailing -- constitutes filing and determines whether a petition is timely filed. A late-filed petition may be disallowed as untimely, unless good cause is shown for waiver. To be allowed, a petition under 220 C.M.R. § 1.03(1) must satisfy the standing requirements of G.L. c. 30A, § 10.

All written pleadings or comments must also be submitted to the Department in electronic format using one of the following methods: (1) by e-mail attachment to dte.efiling@state.ma.us and william.stevens@state.ma.us ; or (2) on a 3.5" floppy diskette, IBM-compatible format. The text of the e-mail or the diskette label must specify: (1) an easily identifiable case caption; (2) docket number; (3) name of the person or company submitting the filing; and (4) a brief descriptive title or document (e.g., comments or petition to intervene). The electronic filing should also include the name, title and phone number of a person to contact in the event of questions about the filing. Text responses should be written in either Word Perfect (naming the document with a ".wpd" suffix) or in Microsoft Word, (naming the document with a ".doc" suffix). Data or spreadsheet responses should be compatible with Microsoft Excel. Documents submitted in electronic format will be posted on the Department's Website, www.state.ma.us/dpu/.

A copy of the Company's filing is on file at the Department's offices, One South Station, Boston, Massachusetts for public view during business hours. Copies are also on file for public view at NSTAR, 800 Boylston Street, Boston, Massachusetts 02199. Any person desiring further information regarding the Company's filing should contact David S. Rosenzweig, Esq., at (617) 951-1400. Any person desiring further information regarding this notice should contact William H. Stevens, Jr., Hearing Officer, Department of Telecommunications and Energy, at (617) 305-3620.



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Investigation by the Department of Telecommunications and Energy on its own motion as to the propriety of the rates and charges set forth in the following tariffs: (Standby Rate) M.D.T.E. Nos. 136A and 137A - Boston Edison Company; M.D.T.E. Nos. 237C, 238C, 239C, 254A and 255A - Cambridge Electric Light Company; and M.D.T.E. Nos. 337A and 338A - Commonwealth Electric Company, filed on January 16, 2004, to become effective February 1, 2004, by Boston Edison Company, Cambridge Electric Light Company, and Commonwealth Electric Company d/b/a NSTAR Electric.

ORDER OF NOTICE

The Companies, Boston Edison Company, Cambridge Electric Light Company, and Commonwealth Electric Company shall, no later than fourteen (14) days prior to February 10, 2004 give notice of said hearing by publication hereof in the Boston Globe or the Boston Herald. The Companies shall also serve a copy of the notice on the Chairmen of the Board of Selectmen, Mayors, Town Clerks and City Clerks of the towns and cities in the Companies' service areas, post a copy of the notice in each town or city hall in the Companies' service areas until the comment period has expired, and provide actual notice to any person who has filed a request for notice with the Companies. The Companies shall serve a copy of the notice on the distribution list in Distributed Generation, D.T.E. 02-38, Competitive Market Initiatives, D.T.E. 01-54 (2001), and to any person who has filed a request for notice with the Company no later than Tuesday, January 27, 2004, and make return of service and proof of publication at the public hearing.

By Order of the Department,

Mary L. Cottrell, Secretary